



# Clownie Connection

The Parade Company Volunteer Newsletter

July/August 2019 Issue #4

## Volunteer Parade Day Application

Be a Part of the Magic!



Volunteering is easy as  
**1,2,3!**

1: Go to:

[www.theparade.org](http://www.theparade.org)

2: Click "Volunteer"

3: Complete & submit the [online application](#)

Once you submit your application, your Parade Day assignment will be emailed to you by the end of September.

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## PARADE SEASON IS HERE! LET'S GET BUSY!!!!



Click on the play button above to view a special message from Parade Company President & CEO Tony Michaels!

### VOLUNTEER LATE NIGHT KICKOFF 2019

**SEPT. 17, 5-8 PM**

**PARADE STUDIO**

Mark your calendar for Tuesday, September 17th, as we kickoff The Parade season and begin our extended volunteer hours (9 AM-5 PM: Mon, Weds & Fri; 9 AM-8 PM every Tuesday and Thursday; 9 AM-2 PM every Saturday).

At the Late Night Kick-off event, you will have a chance to work on floats, sewing or other special projects. We'll have food, beverages, fun raffles and giveaways to celebrate the official start of the season. Feel free to bring your friends and family. Please keep in mind that volunteers must be at least 16 years old.

**TO RSVP, go to:** <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2019-late-night-kickoff-event-tickets-49091106822>



WE  OUR VOLUNTEERS!

## 2019 Volunteer Drop in Late Night & Weekend Schedule

### SEPTEMBER: Late Nights

#### Tuesday, September 17

Kick-off event; Studio open 9 AM - 8 PM

#### Thursday, September 19

Studio open 9 AM - 8 PM

#### Tuesday, September 24

Studio open 9 AM - 8 PM

#### Thursday, September 26

Studio open 9 AM - 8 PM

### Saturdays

#### Saturday, September 21

Studio open 9 AM - 2 PM

#### Saturday, September 28

Studio open 9 AM - 2 PM

### OCTOBER: Late Nights

#### October 1, 3, 8, 10, 15, 17, 22, 24, 29

Studio open 9 AM until 8 PM

\*\*Studio will close early on Oct. 30 and be closed all day on October 31\*\*

### Saturdays

#### October 6, 13, 20, 27

Studio open 9 AM - 2 PM

### NOVEMBER: Late Nights

#### November 5, 7, 12, 14, 19, 21,

Studio open 9AM-8 PM

### Saturdays

#### November 2, 9, 16

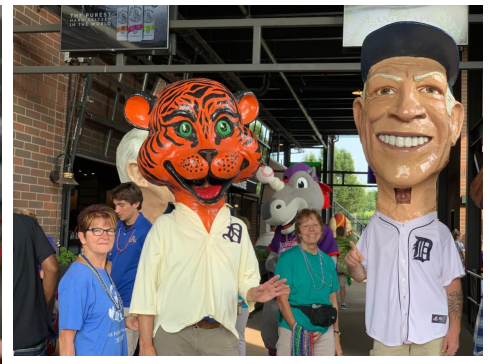
Studio open 9 AM - 2 PM

Drop in hours are for art studio and sewing only.  
Please call ahead for office work.



Wow, what a summer!!!

We had a lot of fun events this summer. Big thanks to all of our wonderful volunteers who helped make each event unforgettable!!







### **Parade Volunteer Orientation** (Mandatory all Parade Volunteers)

- November 18,  
6:00-7:00 PM  
Parade Studio
- November 19,  
6:00-7:00 PM  
Parade Studio

### **Training - Float Driving**

- October 5,  
10:00 AM-Noon  
Huber Parking Lot
- October 12,  
10:00 AM-Noon  
Huber Parking Lot
- November 16,  
10:00 AM-Noon  
Huber Parking Lot

### **Training - Balloon Handling**

- November 9, 9:30 AM-Noon  
Huber Parking Lot

### **Events**

(We start recruiting for the following events in late September/early October; watch your email!)

**Parade Preview Party**  
**October 16, 3:30-9:00 PM**

**Pancake Breakfast**  
**November 8, 6:00-10:00 AM**

**Hob Nobble Gobble**  
**November 22, 2:30-11:30 PM**  
(this event requires a minimum of 20 volunteer hours in 2019)



*Sign up Today!!!!*

### **PARADE PREVIEW PARTY presented by Art Van!!**

We are looking for volunteers to help with various jobs at our annual Parade Preview Party happening on

**Wednesday, October 16**, at the Parade studio. Volunteers need to be available from

**3:30 PM to approximately 9 PM**. Job duties include: ticket punchers, line control, shuttle drivers, greeters, costume characters, beverage replenishers and floaters.

**To sign up:**

- \* Log on to Volgistics: <https://www.volgistics.com/ex2/vicnet.dll?from=244046>
- \* Click "Sign Up" on the Home page and go to the Calendar.
- \* Click "Help Wanted" on the October 16 date, and click "Schedule Me" on your desired position.

If you have not joined Volgistics yet, you can sign up by sending an email to [volunteers@theparade.org](mailto:volunteers@theparade.org).

### **FALL FOR DETROIT**

Mayor Mike Duggan will host his annual fundraiser at The Parade Company on Tuesday, October 22. We are in need of volunteers to help as Costume Greeters, Food Stations, Arts & Crafts, Shuttle Drivers, Big Heads and Handlers. We will also need volunteers to help pass out and stack chairs and act as Floaters.

**To sign up:**

- \* Go to: <https://www.volgistics.com/ex/portal.dll/?from=244046>
- \* Click "Sign Up" to view the Calendar
- \* Go to October 22 and click on the Help Wanted Icon
- \* (If you do not see a Help Wanted icon on Oct. 22, then that means the event is filled)
- \* Once you click on the date, select the job position you want and click "Schedule Me"

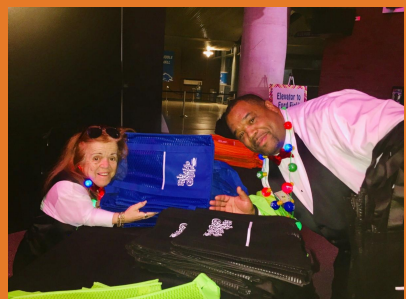
If you have not joined Volgistics yet, you can sign up by sending an email to [volunteers@theparade.org](mailto:volunteers@theparade.org).

### **FARMER'S MARKET BIG HEAD EVENT**

**Sat., Sept. 21**  
**8:30 AM - 1:30 PM**  
Downtown Farmington Center  
33113 Grand River Ave, Farmington

Volunteers are needed to wear our papier mache Big Heads (Ostriches only) or serve as guides (Handlers) for the Farmer's Market event.

**To sign up, please visit: [Volgistics](https://www.volgistics.com). Or, send an email to [volunteers@theparade.org](mailto:volunteers@theparade.org) and indicate if you want to be a Big Head or Handler.**



Ray w ith Diane Rimar at Hob Nobble Gobble presented by Ford

## 5 FUN FACTS ALL ABOUT RAY

1. AGE: **50 YEARS YOUNG**
2. OCCUPATION: **LOAN PROCESSOR**
3. KIDS? THREE BEAUTIFUL LADIES:  
**SHARAE, KYRAH & KENNEDY**
4. PET PEEVES: **DISORGANIZED PEOPLE!**  
**I LIKE STRUCTURE!**
5. FAVORITE FOOD: **TEXAS ROAD HOUSE**



THE  
**PARADE  
COMPANY**  
DETROIT



## RAY WILLIS

Spirited, fun-loving, and always smiling ... These are just a few words to describe Parade Company volunteer Ray Willis. Ray has been a fan of the Parade since he was a child. "It has always been a dream of mine to be in the Parade," says Ray. "It started when I was a little kid. My parents used to take me to the Parade every year. I was excited to watch those big floats pass by!"

Ray finally got his chance to live out his Parade dreams in 2015 when he found out that The Parade Company was accepting Parade volunteer applications. "I was volunteering for River Days and I started asking people about The Parade Company," said Ray. "That's when I found out that I could actually volunteer in the Parade!"

Today, Ray not only volunteers for the Parade but also helps with the Auto Show Parades, St. Patrick's Parade, Rooftop Party presented by Ford and Hob Nobble Gobble presented by Ford.

We are so thankful for incredible volunteers like Ray, and we're pleased to highlight him as this issue's Volunteer Spotlight!

Q: How long have you been a volunteer with TPC?

A: Four years

Q: Did you grow up watching the Parade?

A: It was a family tradition to get up in the morning and either go down to Woodward Avenue to watch the Parade or watch it on TV.

Q: What is your favorite volunteer position?

A: Float Driver! I love the family environment and teamwork. I love the roll-out of the floats the day before Parade. The whole float team is incredible!

Q: Favorite TPC memory?

A: Ford Fireworks!! It's so fun watching the excitement of people at the Rooftop Party playing games and winning prizes. Plus, you can't beat the main event - watching the fireworks!

Q: What is your favorite TPC event?

A: America's Thanksgiving Parade® presented by Art Van!!

Q: Why do you volunteer?

A: I love helping people.

Q: Something about you that few people know ...

A: I was a widow at the age of 24. I raised my two girls (then ages 3 and 4) by myself until they turned 18. Now, they are beautiful, independent ladies ages 29 and 30!

Q: Do you volunteer at other organizations?

A: I work for the audio ministry at my Church (Third New Hope).

Q: Who's your hero?

A: My father.



Ray (far left) along with Parade Company volunteers at the St. Patrick's Parade



## AUGUST

Allen, Steven	Ellis, Alexis	Kirks, Louise	Schwartz, Julie
Babbage, Dorothy	Erxleben, Roberta	Kranson, Bob	Sheedy, Ann
Baczkowski, Janice	Fall-Diop, Adja	Kury, Joshua	Sheppard, Polly
Bahoura,	Farrow, Carol	Lewis, Destiney	Soyk, Carl
Catherine	Feinbloom, Rosie	Lewis, Kielon	Stacy, Therese
Baker, Barbara	Flaga, Daniel	Lodato, Maria	Stanford Johnson,
Baker, Tracey	Foster, Kendall	Lundy, Delores	Jocelynn
Bejin, Susan	Franklin, Pamela	Lyles, Jason	Starbird, Chelsea
Billstrom, Theresa	Frazier, Debra	Lyons, Michelle	Stevenson, Sandra
Biondo, John	Frederick, Karen	Mabie, Brian	Tank, Angela
Black, Norma	Frost, Antoinette	Mann, Kelsey	Taylor, James
Black, Shalyce	Glenz, David	Marvin, Terry	Teller, Anita
Bohman, Jeanne	Graber, Tammi	Marx, Mike	Terrell, Audrey
Bozin, Elaine	Grgurich, Colleen	Mitchell, Roxanne	Tiernan, Richard
Busquaert, Anna	Grgurich, Joel	Morgan, Wil	Turner, Beatrice
Charles, Stephen	Guajardo, Deanna	Morris, Sam	Uthes, Jerry
Cleland, Catherine	Hickman-Jackson,	Morris, Sunnie	Valcheva, Vessela
Collier, Antonio	Stacey	Murphy, Alexander	Waldvogel, Jodi
Dailey, Jennifer	Hodge, Tina	Norback, Julie	Waskiewicz,
Delaflor, Angela	Holderith, Bana	Okonkwo, Ike	Stephanie
Delgado, Aliza	Hollingshed,	Owens, Nadine	Weiss, Christine
DeMayo, Rick	Brandi	Payne, Christine	Whiting, Philecia
DeStefanis, Grace	Horn, Tanya	Perlin, Mitchell	Williams-Fox,
Detiege, Ashlie	Hulett, Erin	Perry, Chelsea	Rainesha
Dexter, Brad	Hunter, Gina	Plante, Jill	Williamson-
Dickerson, Krystal	Hyden, Robin	Poulos, Scotto	Staten, Kimberly
Dodge, Kathryn	Jewell, Ashani	Betty	Wilson, Allyah
Domagalski, Susan	Johnson,	Powe, Mellonease	Wilson, Diana
Dukhie, Sandra	Adrianna	Rehfeld, Mary	Wisswell,
Duncan, Summer	Jonson, Annie	Ried, Bill	Christine
Ebsen, Bobbi	Johnson, Demarko	Riser, Shanae	Wofford, Christine
Edwards, Shanise	Jones, Tierra	Robinson, Cathy	Zettner, Randy
Elek, Jim	Katanski, Daniel	Robinson, James	
	Kellogg, Castana	Savage, Mary	
	Kelly, Alisha		
	Kennedy, Freya		



## SEPTEMBER



Allen, Bruce	Derey, Mary	Lawrence, Dana	Ruth, Michael
Anderson, Ivar	DeSmet, Linda	Lechkun, Gregory	Saylor, Erica
Angel-Stewart, Marie	Dessert, Tiffanh	Macioce, Ben	Schimke, Angela
Armijo, Diane	Doskocz, John	Marable, Sheila	Schmidt, Margo
Baldwin, Diane	Dowtin, Danielle	Marcaccio, Kelley	Sebring, Patrick
Barker, Deborah.	Drews, Jessica	McDonel,	Shackelford,
Barnes, Jasmyne	Elliott, Maryellen	Roderick	Daryl
Barzart, Leona	Fann, Donovan	Meerhaeghe,	Sheppard, Sean
Beaudry, Nancy	Freeman-Neely,	Kimberly	Shields, Larry
Booth, Kathie	Alonda	Mercer, Sheila	Shovan-
Bouchar, Barsoum	Freers, Virginia	Miller, Charmane	Wedlake, Vee
Boylan, Marilyn	Furton, Debbie	Miller, Shane	Silverman,
Brooks Burke,	Garner, Vanessa	Minchella, Janet	Harriett
Yvonne	Gerard, Debbie	Mitchell, Sylvia	Stahl, Susan
Campbell, Santana	Godfrey, Neshele	Molitoris, Linda	Sullen, Jackie
Carnegie, Lisa	Godfrey, Sanyul	Mollner , Sarah	Thompson,
Christian, Antonio	Gray, Camille	Moning, Michelle	LaToya
Clark, Ivy	Gruda, Michelle	Moore, Angela	Vorhees, Donna
Coccia, Courtney	Gubler, Angela	Moore, Stefanie	Warren, Mary
Congdon, Valerie	Gwyn, Erika	Morris, Elizabeth	Washington,
Cooley, Devon	Hampton, Janeice	Niemchak, Jesse	Andrea
Copeland,	Hijazi, Ariel	Norman, Sharon	White, Iketa
Alexander	Hudson, Chareta	O'Keefe , Gary	White, Mieshia
Corrigan, Patricia	Humes, Emmanuel	Otwell, Daniel	Wiesner, Joe
Craig, Deborah	Hunt, Tarif	Paddock, Ed	Wilburn, James
Dahmen,	Jenkins, Stephanie	Paterson, Donna	Williams, David
Christopher	Jens, Christopher	Pefley, Cathy	Williams, Helena
Daniels, Khiyon	Jordan, Martha	Piccirilli, Anthony	Williams, Vickie
Daraskavich,	Kish, Kimberley	Polderdyke,	Wilson, Kay
Michael	Knighton, Carla	Nancy	Yaldoo, Monique
Darrell, Doris	Koehler, Mary	Porterfield, Jana	Young, Bettina
Dean, Leslie	Kuhn, Tiffany	Roth, Amy	Zerafa, Judy
DeBrabant, Sarah	Lacoste, Valorie	Rowls, Ronnie	
Delks, Kimberly			

## TOUR OUR STUDIO!!



Family friendly fun - Perfect for kids and kids at heart!!

Experience a behind the scenes look at America's Thanksgiving Parade® presented by Art Van.

Prices are \$12 per adult; \$8 per child and \$10 per senior.  
Discount pricing for schools/special needs groups. Call for details or to book your tour! Ask for Sharon: 313.432.7833.



## Maximize Your Volunteer Impact!

Did you know that your volunteer hours could also earn grant donations for The Parade Company?

Many companies offer Volunteer Grants (sometimes called "Dollars for Doers") for current and retired employees. Through these programs, you can earn monetary donations for your favorite charity by volunteering your time.

Please check with your HR department to see if your company has such a program, and if so please consider supporting The Parade Company by requesting a grant for your volunteer hours. Be sure to indicate the grant is for Volunteers. Donated funds support TPC's programs and cherished events!!!!

## STAY CONNECTED!

